

Soil Survey in V. V. Sagar Tract.

Q.—924. Sri V. MASIYAPPA (Hiriyur).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) whether there have been representations to conduct “Soil Survey” in the V. V. Sagar Tract in Hiriyur Taluk;

(b) whether it has come to their notice that alkalinity in the soil is a major problem in the V. V. Sagar atchkat lands;

(c) if there has been representation to have a planned drainage scheme for the whole tract?

A.—Dr. R. NAGAN GOWDA (Minister for Agriculture).—

(a) None recently.

(b) Development of alkalinity is linked with the nature of the soils in many of the irrigated tracts of the State. Vani Vilas Sagar area is also affected by this disadvantageous condition, the high salinity of the irrigation waters adding to this.

(c) No. Drainage is not the only remedy.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—What is the minimum quantum of salinity in water that will not affect the growth of crops, Sir?

Dr. R. NAGAN GOWDA.—I have got this information, Sir. The exact effect on cocoanut and areca plantations is that they are not salt-tolerant. The maximum concentration of salt is considered to be .2 per cent and in very few cases this limit is met with in the V. V. Sagar area.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—Do you mean to say that this content of 70 to 80 parts per hundred thousand, would not really affect the crop of paddy especially?

Dr. R. NAGAN GOWDA.—There are some areas where it is above .2 per cent. Probably 70 to 80 parts per 100 thousand would not effect. But there are areas where it is more than that. I have got figures here which show

that salt quantum in the soils of the atchkat area has been as much as .2 to .4 also. But there is another point that ought to be taken into consideration and that is the salt content of the water itself. I will give in a short way a comparison between the water of V. V. Sagar and of K.R.S. The salt content in V.V. Sagar water is 64 parts per one lakh wheas in K.R.S. it is 11 parts per one lakh; and the acidity and alkalinity are like this: In the VVS the PH. value is 8.7 to 9—it is alkaline, whereas in K.R.S. it is 7 to 7.5 which is neutral. These are things which are of important consideration here.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—In addition to salinity in water, are there not areas where salinity in the soil itself is responsible for this loss of crop?

Dr. R. NAGAN GOWDA.—That is true. Salinity in water only adds to the salinity in soil. Even good soils, where there is no salinity, can become saline when irrigated with saline water. I may assure you that in many cases it is the water that makes the soil saline when the soil is irrigated with water containing a high percentage of salinity. But here in V.V. Sagar, water itself is saline. It is difficult to say how this strange phenomenon has taken place in here. Probably it is due to the fact that, as I am told, the water in V.V. Sagar is taken only from above the level of 64 feet and there is always a stock of 64 feet of water in V.V. Sagar and probably that is responsible for the accumulation of this salt continuously year after year. But that is a matter about which some more investigation has to be done.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—Can you not think of some possibility of neutralising this kind of salinity both in the soil and also in the water, Sir?

Dr. R. NAGAN GOWDA.—I know so very little about this area now, I will not dare risk a suggestion now in this matter. But there are some lines on which some investigations may be conducted. This is a matter that ought to be still investigated. But the question of neutralising the alkalinity in soils is such a costly problem. It is possible to do it with gypsum. But

(DR. R. NAGAN GOWDA.)

that makes the problem costly. There are other methods one of which is growing leguminous crops. That is a method of neutralising the soils to some extent. Then there is the digging of drains to drain away the alkaline salts from the soil; this is one of the common methods.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—In areas where the salinity is very heavy, would it not be useful if the Government were to dig drains to drain off the salt content in the water?

Dr. R. NAGAN GOWDA.—As I said, wherever there was such soil salinity, a soil survey was conducted some ten years ago. The report has not been printed. Very soon it will be printed and that will give a clear analysis of the survey of the whole area. It is found that beyond 27 miles under this reservoir there are places where it is difficult to drain and above that, there are just a few places where there has been some difficulty in drainage, and this is a problem that ought to be investigated into and estimates prepared, and the cost involved should also be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER.—These are too many details.

Sri A. BHEEMAPPA NAIK.—It is very necessary, because we are losing thousands of tons of paddy every year on account of this, Sir. We could elicit some good information from Dr. Nagan Gowda, because he is not only an agriculturist, but also a scientist and I thought he would take interest in these matters. Will you kindly institute an intensive soil survey so that all these areas may be investigated and proper advice given to the raiyats, Sir?

Dr. R. NAGAN GOWDA.—Soil survey has already been done, Sir, 10 years ago. We are printing that soil survey report, which is quite a bulky one, within a very short time.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಮನಿಯಪ್ಪ.—ನೀರೂ ಕೂಡ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಕಾರಣ ಎಂದು ಅಪ್ಪಣೆ ಕೊಡಿಸಿದರು. ಆ ನೀರನ್ನು ಎಕ್ಸಾಮಿನ್ ಮಾಡಿಸಿದ್ದೀರಾ?

ಡಾ|| ಆರ್. ನಾಗನಗೌಡ.—ನೀರು ಎಕ್ಸಾಮಿನ್ ಮಾಡಿ analysis ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ; ಅಷ್ಟೇ ಅಲ್ಲದೆ Water Sample ಎ. ಎ. ನಾಗರದ್ದು ಮತ್ತು ಕೆ. ಆರ್. ನಾಗರದ್ದು ಕಂಪೇರ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಸ್ಪೆಟ್ ಮಂಟ್ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ತಮಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಅದನ್ನು ಕೊಡುತ್ತೇನೆ, ನೋಡಿ.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎ. ಮನಿಯಪ್ಪ.—ಈಚೆಗೆ ಸುಮಾರು ಏಳೆಂಟು ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಈ ಡ್ರೈನೇಜ್ ತೆಗೆಯುವುದನ್ನು ರೈತರು ಅವರೇ ತಮ್ಮ ಸ್ವಂತ ಖರ್ಚಿನಿಂದ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಕ್ಕೆ ತಂದುದರ ಪರಿಣಾಮವಾಗಿ ಆ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ಜಮೀನಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸಾಗುವಳಿಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರದವರು ತಿಳಿದುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆಯೇ?

ಡಾ|| ಆರ್. ನಾಗನಗೌಡ.—ನಿಜ. ಹಾಗೆ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬ ರೈತನೂ ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಸೆಲಿನಿಟ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ ಅಲ್ಲ ಡ್ರೈನೇಜ್ ತೆಗೆಯಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದು ಮಾಡತಕ್ಕದ್ದೂ ಸಹ usual cost of cultivation ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಈಗ ಅಲ್ಲ ಬತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆಯುವುದಕ್ಕೆ saline resistant varieties ಕಂಡುಹಿಡಿಯುತ್ತಾ ಇದ್ದಾರೆ.

Sri V. MASIYAPPA.—Until other methods are evolved for getting rid of this alkalinity, will the Government be pleased to encourage and help raiyats in these drainage works, Sir?

Dr. R. NAGAN GOWDA.—Yes, certainly.

Colonisation Scheme at Mandya.

Q.—830. Sri Mulka GOVINDA REDDY (Chitaldrug).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) when were the lands granted to agricultural graduates and diploma holders in Mandya District under Colonisation Scheme;

(b) what were the terms of the grant;

(c) who were the grantees to whom lands have been granted;

(d) whether the ownership of lands has been confirmed on them; if not, why?

A.—Dr. R. NAGAN GOWDA (Minister for Agriculture).—

(a) 22nd May 1940.

(b) and (c) Statements appended.

(d) No; The matter is under consideration.